



AWIPS 10-Year Forecast Partnership, Responsibility, Innovation



Key Features and Benefits

- Raytheon manages the operations, maintenance and evolution of AWIPS, leading an experienced, reliable team of large and small businesses that support NOAA/NWS's initiatives and strategic efforts.
- Our "Voice of the Forecaster" program makes it easy for forecasters and technologists in forecast and environmental centers across the nation to participate in AWIPS improvement initiatives. We provide forums for sharing information, ideas and insights, solicit feedback, and encourage forecaster direct participation in software testing.
- Raytheon's Service Level Management Process defines a life cycle of continuous improvement grounded in open communication. It ensures that we respond quickly to changes in NOAA/NWS's scientific, technology, and business goals for AWIPS.
- Raytheon developed and is currently implementing the AWIPS Software Product Improvement Plan and the services oriented software re-architecture that will form the basis of the next-generation system — AWIPS II.

The Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) is an instrument used by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/ National Weather Service (NOAA/NWS) to analyze and disseminate operational weather data including time-sensitive, high-impact warnings. Since 2005 Raytheon has been NOAA's partner for the operations, maintenance and evolution of AWIPS, providing the integrated mission services required to sustain and enhance system performance.

AWIPS plays a critical role in the ability of U.S. forecasters to make weather predictions that can save lives and safeguard property. It is a complex network of systems that ingest and integrate meteorological, hydrological, satellite and radar data. Additionally, AWIPS also processes and distributes the data to and among 140+ forecast offices and environmental centers nationwide. Forecasters in the field utilize the capabilities of AWIPS to make increasingly accurate weather, water and climate predictions, and to dispense rapid, highly reliable warnings and advisories.

The Raytheon AWIPS Team provides hardware, software and communication services to the entire AWIPS network, including NWS Weather Forecast Offices, River Forecast Centers, regional headquarters and Environmental Prediction Centers dispersed across the United States and its territories.

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Partnership, Responsibility, Innovation

AWIPS II – Transparently Shaping the AWIPS of the Future

As the architect of the AWIPS evolution, Raytheon is designing and constructing the next generation system. AWIPS II will bring advanced functionality to forecasters in the field while simultaneously simplifying code and consequently strengthening system performance while reducing the cost of maintenance. All of this will be achieved while retaining a system look and feel that will make the AWIPS evolution transparent to the user.

The AWIPS Software Re-Architecture Product Improvement Plan, authored by Raytheon, known as AWIPS II will be built on a Service Oriented Architecture. The AWIPS II structure will also take advantage of open source software, which has become a viable alternative.

The first release of AWIPS II operational test and evaluation phase is planned for the spring of 2010, and Raytheon is working closely with the NWS program management office to keep the larger AWIPS community informed and aware of these advances. By using our AWIPS “Voice of the Forecaster”, we are able to relay AWIPS II concepts and strategies, deliver technical briefings, and tap into the invaluable input and insights of forecasters in the field.

The Raytheon AWIPS team provides a wide range of mission-critical support services including:

- 24/7 AWIPS network operations, monitoring and control. This support comes from our Network Control Facility/AWIPS Operations Center, which operates from NWS headquarters.
- Satellite communications, including operation of the AWIPS Satellite Broadcast Network.
- Software maintenance, integration and tests including management of major releases, as well as maintenance and emergency releases.
- Hardware maintenance and logistics, semi-annual preventative maintenance for all sites, and security patch management.

The Raytheon AWIPS team has also executed numerous engineering sustainment, product improvement, and technology refresh projects. These include site relocations as well as

hardware replacements that are designed to increase system responsiveness, avoid obsolescence, enhance security and reduce system reliability risks. We are also engineering the multi-year evolution of AWIPS to its future state — AWIPS II.

Our vision for AWIPS is based on an unwavering commitment to the NOAA/NWS mission. We thrive on a shared belief that operating in *partnership* with our customer, accepting *responsibility* for the system entrusted to us, and pursuing *innovation* wherever it adds value will yield benefits for AWIPS users and the public. We turned our beliefs into action with a Partnership Integrated Product Team of customer/contractor personnel that has met biweekly since the first days of the contract, the execution of our unique “Voice of the Forecaster” program, and the creation of a working environment that enables our team to consistently turn requirements into high-quality, highly responsive, cost-effective solutions.

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Customer Success Is Our Mission